

Information Services Board Geographic Information Technology Committee Update

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Description

Briefing book update on strategic planning activities of the ISB Committee on Geographic Information Technology (GIT)

Committee Membership

Susan Hettinger (Chair),
Deputy Director, DIS
Emilo Cantu, ISB
Honorable Glenn Anderson,
House of Representatives
Carol Fleskes,
Administrative & IT Director ECY

Frank Westrum, CIO, DOH
Jeff Koenings, Director, WFDFW
Richard Ybarra, Assistant
Secretary, WSDOT
Vicki Lukas, Chief PNW Science
Team, USGS

Tim Lowenberg, Major General,
WMD
Bonnie Bunning, Executive
Director, DNR
Ian Von Essen, WAGIC Chair,
Spokane County

1. Washington State Strategic Plan for GIT

The ISB Committee on Geographic Information Technology will be on the ISB January meeting agenda to seek endorsement of the Washington State Strategic Plan for Geographic Information Technology.

The plan is currently before the ISB GIT Committee for final approval. This culminates an active, inclusive process that sought input and review by a broad spectrum of the GIS community. The planning effort was launched with a statewide workshop in Ellensburg that was attended by thirty plus organizations from across the state including representation from the federal, state, local and university sectors. Over the course of a twelve-month period several comment and review cycles were conducted to improve and refine subsequent plan drafts.

The plan, while focused on Washington state agencies, frames its strategic objectives in the context of cross-governmental partnerships fundamental to the successful resolution of environmental, transportation, public safety and other multi-jurisdictional problems. It is only through a common vision and cross-governmental partnerships that the full potential of GIT will be realized. Key elements of the plan include:

Strategy 1: Develop a common vision and architecture for GIT deployment across state agencies with the long-term goal of linking to federal and local architectures.

Objective 1a: Develop an Enterprise Architecture that meets shared GIT needs.

Enterprise Architecture identifies elements of shareable infrastructure to lower costs and promote joint investments, and increases agency capacity to support mission-critical policy decisions both within and across organizations. Development of the GIT Enterprise Architecture will be done in collaboration with the ISB Enterprise Architecture Committee.

Objective 1b: Identify an optimal role for the state as the catalyst that coordinates GIT needs across government jurisdictions. Clearly defined roles and governance lead to greater collaboration and sustainable partnerships, as well as fewer investment redundancies and data incompatibility issues.

Strategy 2: Leverage GIT Investments through enhanced access to data and applications.

Objective 2a: Produce multi-use geographic data through partnerships. Integrate Washington Geospatial Framework Data Activities with the Washington GIT Enterprise Architecture. Timely and sufficient data provide information critical to sound public policy and decision making. Data will be managed to reflect a *develop once – use many times* ethic.

Objective 2b: Enhance data discovery and access through a clearinghouse and central portal. An enhanced clearinghouse/portal will reduce the enterprise cost of data, strengthen existing infrastructure investment, reduce the need to maintain redundant, inconsistent data and improve access to existing data.

Objective 2c: Continue to develop standards as a way to facilitate data integration and access. As agencies standardize certain practices, cost effective data sharing and integration become possible, along with a new capacity for on-the-fly data analysis and ad hoc data integration.

Objective 2d: Protect sensitive data as necessary. Achieving this objective will improve access to unrestricted data and protect those areas of information that contain sensitive data.

Strategy 3: Integrate state GIT activities with federal and local interests and needs through enhanced collaboration and initiatives that cross jurisdictions.

Objective 3a: Facilitate creation of a statewide, local jurisdiction GIT forum with ties to the Information Services Board (ISB) through the GIT Committee and the Washington Geographic Information Council (WAGIC). The forum will augment state and federal coordination and provide opportunity to shape policies and share implementation responsibilities and resources. Statewide initiatives benefit as they receive accurate, up-to-date data and information from local jurisdictions.

Objective 3b: Align state data and portal activities with the United States Geographic Survey (USGS) National Map and Geospatial One-Stop. Supporting and integrating state and local government GIT activities with these national initiatives will lead to improved data and information exchange and interoperability. Aligning state GIT activities with national initiatives will add depth and range to prospects for partnership and new funding sources.

Implementation of the plan will help government policy and decision makers arrive at better decisions faster through improved access to accurate, timely and pertinent information. In many cases benefits will be felt in the near term as redundancies are identified and removed. Other benefits will accrue over the long term as shareable infrastructure and key data and information are collected and maintained once but used many times throughout the enterprise with minimal integration and access issues. Copies of the full plan are available at <http://wagic.wa.gov>.

Next GIT Meeting: November 15, 2004.